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Role in Iran

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(Excerpts) It is an open secret in the world today that every reactionary coup in any Latin American country is planned and executed by the American CIA. Not that this applies only to Latin America, it is true also of Asia and Africa. Recently a Federal court in New York heard a case which the press presented to the American public as alarming because of its partial connection with the family of Shah of Iran.

The case would not have disturbed the state department or certain American leaders but for a subsequent and incidental exposure of certain hidden facts behind the downfall of former Iranian Premier Dr. Mossadeq in 1953. Briefly, the case was brought by Khaber Khan, chief of the Bakhtiari tribe in southern Iran now living in exile, against the Pahlevi family. The litigation can be sidestepped because it is unimportant, but it can be said that oil wells are located in the Bakhtiari tribal area and Khaber Khan claims them as tribal property.

Important, however, are the photostats of several secret documents which Khaber succeeded in obtaining with the help of his agents inside the Iranian administration. These include checks drawn on the Union Swiss Bank in which the Shah's family deposit their funds. Some of these checks were paid out of the "Pahlevi fund" account--naturally a secret account--and date back to 1952 and 1953, namely the period that preceded and followed the downfall of Mossadeq.

The checks were made out not only to senior Iranian officials, but also to leading American and British personalities, known to have largely participated in the plot to overthrow Mossadeq.

The photostats showed that Mrs. Henderson, wife of the U.S. ambassador in Teheran who was considered the brains behind the anti-Mossadeq coup, received 1 million dollars.

Other documents revealed that similar amounts were received by: Allen Dulles, former CIA chief; Henry Luce, publisher of the American reactionary magazines, LIFE, TIME, and FORTUNE; and George Allen, who was U.S. ambassador in Teheran prior to Henderson. It is a known fact that the anti-Mossadeq coup was jointly executed by American and British intelligence. Other photostats exposed the sources of the funds deposited in the secret "Pahlevi fund" from which these millions were disbursed. The fund totalled 56 million dollars, of which 12 million had been deposited by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, 6 million from U.S. aid to Iran, 5 million from the U.S. Treasury Department, and so forth.

The American public was not much concerned with the litigation between Iranian reactionaries Khaber Khan and the Shah's family. What struck them was the millions of dollars delivered to senior U.S. officials and businessmen either through the Union Swiss Bank or U.S. banks. The Iranian Government and the State Department made several attempts to prevent the press from airing the scandal, but a congressional committee intervened and forced the U.S. Treasury to investigate the documents before the Federal Court, documents which are without doubt authentic. It would be naive, however, for anyone to expect Allen Dulles or Henry Luce to publicly explain why and how these millions went into their pockets. As yet, the Federal Court in New York has not rejected the photostats as forgeries.